

Torres, Francine

From: reconstructions@mindspring.com%inter2 [reconstructions@mindspring.com] on behalf of reconstructions@mindspring.com
Sent: Monday, February 21, 2005 9:52 PM
To: Torres, Francine
Subject: Letter to Jim Riddle, Chairman, NOSB
Attachments: ATTACHMENT.TXT

Dear NOSB Chairman Jim Riddle,

Please consider the statements of support by us consumers and producers for the recent Livestock Committee Pasture Requirement recommendations very seriously. A GREAT deal is at stake and your board's recommendations to NOP will ultimately determine what will be understood by the word "ORGANIC" by untold generations to come. In your hands is whether the term "organic" becomes just another marketer's tag-line to juice up sales or a label referring to valuable information which consumers can trust and depend on for their health choices and their choices about their food sources' impact on the planet. If you take out of our hands that choice, if you deprive the word "ORGANIC" of its clear meaning, you will have set the stage for a disastrous domino affect. You will have deprived a significant and ever growing proportion of our citizenry of the right to know and to choose. Much blood has been spilled by our countrymen over these many generations to uphold this right. Please remember this when you make your decision.

You should know as well that the additional recommendations of the Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance are every bit as important to the clarity of the meaning of the word "ORGANIC". Their definitions of 'pasture', the minimum intake of dry matter, the minimum of 120 days on pasture per year with no more than 3 lactating cows per acre, and the guidelines for compliance are all very important principles to a successful "ORGANIC" designation.

I thank you in advance for doing a very difficult job.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Jackmauh
Dairy Farmer since 2001
Transitioning to Organic in August 2005
Andrick's Brook Farm
176 Houde Lane
Barnet, Vermont

Dated: February 21, 2005

2/22/2005